Message Text

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CINCMAC FOR POLAD

FOL REPEAT NICOSIA 955 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ANKARA ATHENS BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN JIDDA LONDON PARIS MONTREAL MOSCOW ROME THE HAGUE VIENNA GENEVA USUN SECDEF DTD 7 APR.

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, CY, TU, US

SUBJECT: NORTHERN CYPRUS AIRSPACE ISSUE

REF: NICOSIA 0898 (DTG 020610Z APR 77)

1. EMBOFF MET WITH GOC DIRECTOR CIVIL AVIATION (DCA) ON APRIL 6 TO REVIEW SITUATION IN NORTHERN NICOSIA FIR. DCA SAID ABOUT 30-35 NON-TURKISH AIRCRAFT PER DAY ARE CONTACTING ERCAN AND THAT ALASIA CROSSROADS ESPECIALLY REMAINS "POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION." DCA MENTIONED ADDITIONAL FOLLOWING POINTS:

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A. PANAM, AIR FRANCE, BRITISH AIRWAYS, LUFTHANSA, SAUDIA ARE NO LONGER FLYING THROUGH NORTHERN NICOSIA FIR, AND APPEAR TO HAVE RE-ROUTED ALL FLIGHTS.

B. WHILE NICOSIA CANNOT PICK UP ANKARA ACC TRANSMISSIONS, IT APPEARS TO NICOSIA FROM MONITOR OF AIRCRAFT RADIOS THAT ANKARA ACC IS DIRECTING TRAFFIC COMING FROM OR THROUGH TURKEY

TO CONTACT ERCAN.

C. AEROFLOT AIRCRAFT FLYING OVER TURKEY (NOT STOPPING IN TURKEY) IGNORE COMPLETELY ANKARA ACC INSTRUCTION TO CONTACT ERCAN. DCA BELIEVES AEROFLOT IS ONLY AIRLINE FLYING OVER TURKEY WHICH IGNORES ANKARA INSTRUCTIONS.

D. NUMEROUS CIVIL AIRCRAFT FLYING THROUGH NORTHERN NICOSIA FIR CALL BOTH ERCAN AND NICOSIA. WHERE AIRCRAFT ARE COMING FROM TURKEY, AIRCRAFT USUALLY CALL ERCAN FIRST AND THEN ALSO CONTACT NICOSIA. DCA POINTED OUT THAT SOMETIMES AIRCRAFT CALL NICOSIA AFTER SEVERAL MINUTES HAVE PASSED FROM TIME THEY CONTACTED ERCAN; THIS DELAY CAN CAUSE POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS.

2. EMBOFF ASKED DCA FOR LIST OF AIRLINES FLYING THROUGH NORTHERN NICOSIA FIR WHICH CONTACT ERCAN. DCA POINTED OUT THAT IATA RECENTLY ISSUED NOTICE THAT MEMBER AIRLINES SHOULD ONLY MONITOR RPT MONITOR ERCAN. DESPITE IATA NOTICE, IT APPEARS MOST AIRLINES FLYING THROUGH AREA "PLAY IT SAFE" AND CONTACT BOTH ERCAN AND NICOSIA. DCA HAS PROMISED SHORTLY TO PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH OTHER DATA AND INFORMATION AIRCRAFT PASSING THROUGH NORTHERN NICOSIA FIR.

3. DCA ALSO MENTIONED GOC HAS MONITORED FOUR FURTHER INSTANCES OF USAF AIRCRAFT CONTACTING ERCAN. NICOSIA DAO SENDING SEPTEL THIS SUBJECT. DILLERY UNQUOTE VANCE

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